

08/526,437 filed on September 11, 1995.

Drawings

Response to Paragraph 4 of Examiner's Detailed Action:

Applicant is including herewith for filing the Four (4) "REPLACEMENT SHEETS" of drawings for the above referenced patent application. REPLACEMENT SHEETS are for drawing figures 1 - 6. Figure 6 exploded view is enclosed within a bracket.

Application No. 10/695,883; **REPLACEMENT SHEET 1/4**
Confirm No. 7811; Examiner: MAYO, TARA L.; Art Unit 3671

Application No. 10/695,883; **REPLACEMENT SHEET 2/4**
Confirm No. 7811; Examiner: MAYO, TARA L.; Art Unit 3671

Application No. 10/695,883; **REPLACEMENT SHEET 3/4**
Confirm No. 7811; Examiner: MAYO, TARA L.; Art Unit 3671

Application No. 10/695,883; **REPLACEMENT SHEET 4/4**
Confirm No. 7811; Examiner: MAYO, TARA L.; Art Unit 3671

Claim Objections

Response to Paragraphs 8 & 9 of Examiner's Detailed Action:

Applicant has amended claims 1 and 4 particularly claim 1 has been amended to include the language suggested by Examiner in Paragraph 9.

Relative to Claim 3 (which has the further elements added to Claim 1) "further comprising means for being configured and controlled within a pipe skimmer actuator system for creating a specially designed cylindrical conduit or pipe . . .".

Now Applicant notes that relative to Claim 4 (which has further elements added to Claim 2 which are elements according to claim 1 wherein said fourth edge further comprises thereon a slight v-shape which causes a small amount of spreading of the plastic thereby inhibiting) and which elements added by Claim 4 which are - as in claim 3 - "further comprising means for being configured and controlled within a pipe skimmer actuator system for creating a specially designed cylindrical conduit or pipe . . ."

Applicant can see no reason to provide any further amendments to Claim 4 as suggested

by Examiner in Paragraph 8.

Claim Rejections

Response to Paragraphs 10 & 11 of Examiner's Detailed Action:

Examiner has noted that it is unclear what is meant by "the former" and Applicant points out the repeated and clear definition of the meaning of the word "former".

Applicant first wishes to note that part of the title of the invention is ACTUATABLE SKIMMER TAB **FORMER** FOR CREATING APERTURES AND SKIMMER TABS WITHIN PLASTIC PIPE. This definition of "former" or "the former" or even "said former" is repeatedly referenced in the specification. For example:

- a) **In the second paragraph of page 1** of the specification: "The apertures/skimmer tabs may be created using pneumatics to actuate the perforator/skimmer tab former and punching the apertures and forming the skimmer tabs in cold plastic pipe, . . ."
- b) This reference and definition of "the former" is repeatedly used and clearly defined as to the structure and function.

Applicant has amended claims 1 and 4 particularly claim 1 has been amended to include a better definition of the "former". The amendment relative to this rejection is: ". . . and as said perforator/skimmer tab former ~~the former~~ is further advanced . . ."

Examiner has noted that it is unclear what is meant by "hinged" and Applicant points out the repeated and clear definition of the meaning of the word "hinged".

On Page 2 of specification note ". . . two edges are cut and at the same time the plastic material within the cut region is pressed or rolled into the interior of the conduit while being substantially attached or "hinged" along the fourth or uncut edge."

On page 11 of the specification note ". . . A yet still further object of the present invention is to provide an actuatable perforator/skimmer tab former which may be sequentially and timely actuated to cause the perforation of the wall of pipe to be hinged along one edge and rolled inwardly creating thereby the skimmer tab of the invention and wherein the plastic of the portion being perforated is semi-molten as, for example during the forming of the pipe or caused to be made semi-molten after formation of the pipe such as, for example, by heating of the actuatable perforator thereby causing the plastic to be rolled rather than cut creating thereby a perforation of predetermined and selected geometry and dimension.

Applicant has amended claim 1 and consequentially claims 2 and 4 are amended. Claim 1 now includes - following the term "hinged": or "hinged" hinged as a consequence of said actuatable

perforator/skimmer tab former which may be sequentially and timely actuated to cause the perforation of the wall of pipe to be hinged along one edge particularly along the fourth edge called the ~~rolledge~~ roll edge;

Examiner has noted that it is unclear what is meant by "said edges one portion" and Applicant points out the repeated and clear definition of the meaning of the word "hinged".

Applicant has amended claim 1 and consequentially claims 2 and 4 are amended. Claim 1 now includes - following the term "substantially in contact with one" by changing the words as: "... said four ends being substantially in contact with one portion of said edges ~~one portion~~, ...".

Examiner has noted that in claim 2 it is unclear what is meant by the term "slight" and Applicant points out the repeated and clear definition of the meaning of the word "slight".

On Page 2 of the specification it is clearly stated: "The fourth edge of the former has incorporated thereon a slight v-shape which causes a small amount of spreading of the plastic thereby inhibiting the skimmer tab from tending to move back toward the aperture from which the tab was created."

On Page 8 of the specification it is stated: "The fourth edge of the former has incorporated thereon a slight v-shape which causes a small amount of spreading of the plastic thereby inhibiting the skimmer tab from tending to move back toward the aperture from which the tab was created."

In the Description of the Drawings on Page 12 : "Fig. 5A is a perspective illustration of the perforator/skimmer tab former and each of the features of this embodiment of the tab former such as piercing and cutting 1st edge and 2nd cutting edges, the surface between the 2 cutting edges, the roll surface, the 4th edge or called the rolledge, and a slight v-shaped portion called the v-spreader along the 4th edge/rolledge"

On page 16 of the specification, in the description of Fig. 5: "There is a slight v-shaped portion called the v-spreader 25 along the 4th edge/rolledge 26 which tends to "spread" the plastic material in the hinge 16 or attached portion."

Applicant has amended claim 2 and consequentially Claim 4 by amending Claim 2 to include the definition of the invention as follows: "... wherein said fourth edge further comprises thereon a slight ~~v-shape~~ v-shaped portion called a v-spreader along said 4th edge which causes ~~a small~~ an amount of spreading ...". This amendment also eliminates the recitation of the word "small".

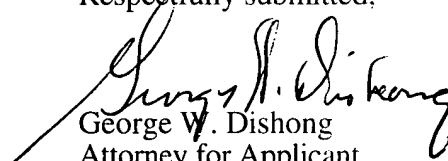
Conclusion

Applicant acknowledges Examiner's Paragraph 12. relative to Allowable Subject Matter and Applicant respectfully submits that the invention now defined in amended claims 1 - 4 responds to the claim objections and rejections of Examiner and therefore Applicant requests Examiner to provide to Applicant an early notice of allowance.

The fees associated with this response, if there are any due, are included herewith. Applicant respectfully requests that Examiner contact his attorney by telephone, by e-mail or by facsimile if there are any additional questions relative to this patent application.

George W. Dishong
DISHONG LAW OFFICES
40 Bryant Road
Jaffrey, New Hampshire 03452
Tel # 603-532-7206; Fax # 603-532-7303
E-mail: dishongpatlaw@monad.net

Respectfully submitted,


George W. Dishong
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 31,348